

REMARKS

Applicants reply to the Office Action dated March 24, 2009 within the one month shortened statutory period for reply. Claims 1-14, 16-40, 42-48 and 50 were pending in the application and the Examiner states that the claims are subject to restriction action and/or election requirement. Support for the amended claims may be found in the originally-filed specification, figures and claims, and thus, no new matter is added by the amendments. Reconsideration of the pending claims is requested.

The Examiner objects claims 20, 40, 44, 46-48 and 50 under 35 USC 1.75(c) as being in improper form because of the multiple dependency issues. Applicants amend or cancel claims 20, 40, 44, 46-48 and 50 to eliminate the multiple dependencies by adding in the specific language referred to in the other claims. Applicants cancel claim 40 since it now depends from claim 1 and without prejudice to filing one or more claims having similar subject matter.

The Examiner asserts a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 requiring restriction of the application as follows:

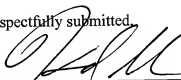
- I: Claims 1-14, drawn to a device for supporting an ultrasonic transducer, classified in class 73, subclass 634.
- II: Claims 16-19 and 21-39, drawn to an apparatus for rotationally positioning ultrasonic transducer supporting devices, classified in class 73, subclass 635.
- III: Claims 42-43 and 45, drawn to an arrangement for ultrasonic testing of lengths of pipes, classified in class 73, subclass 622.

Applicants elect Invention I, consisting of Claims 1-14 for prosecution in this application. Applicants select Invention I in order to expedite prosecution of this application. Applicants also amend the remaining claims to be dependent from independent claim 1 to clarify that the dependent claims relate to a single general inventive concept. More particularly, the dependent claims now include the same or corresponding special technical features of independent claim 1 because the dependent claims include all of the elements of claim 1.

Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's foundation for the Restriction Requirement as set forth in the Office Action. Accordingly, the foregoing election is made without waiver, estoppel or without prejudice to the filing of one or more related applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

The foregoing amendments conforms this application to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement dated March 24, 2009. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any suggestions to place the application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: April 20, 2009

Howard I. Sobelman
Reg. No. 39,038

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.
One Arizona Center
400 E. Van Buren
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202
Phone: (602) 382-6228
Fax: (602) 382-6070
Email: hsobelman@swlaw.com